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## Listing of Claims.

1. (canceled).

2. (canceled).

3. A shunt device for use in a light socket in a light string having at least two said light sockets connected in series, wherein each said socket receives a light bulb, wherein said socket includes a housing having a pair of conductive terminals to operatively connect and receive part of a light bulb in an upper portion of the housing and leaving a lower portion of said housing unoccupied by the light bulb, and each terminal is operatively connected to a wire leading outside the housing, which includes:

a first semiconductor chip; and

a first conductive member connected at one end to one side of said first semiconductor chip and having another end, and wherein said chip and said member are configured to be operatively interposed in a self retained manner between the terminals in the lower portion of the housing The shunt device of claim 1, wherein said first conductive member is a spring.

4. (previously presented) The shunt device of claim 3, wherein said first conductive member is bonded to said side of said chip.

5. (currently amended) The shunt device of claim 3 +, which further includes a second semiconductor chip wherein said first conductive member is connected at said another end to another side of said second chip and wherein said chips contact said terminals when said chips and said conductive member are configured to be operatively interposed between said terminals in said lower portion.

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6. (canceled).
7. (previously presented) The shunt device of claim 5, wherein said first conductive member is bonded to each said chip.
8. (previously presented) The shunt device of claim 7, wherein each said chip is bonded to said terminal.
9. (previously presented) A light socket for use with a light string having at least two said light sockets connected in series, wherein each said socket receives a light bulb, wherein said socket includes:
  - a housing having a pair of conductive terminals to operatively connect and receive part of a light bulb in an upper portion of the housing and leaving a lower portion of said housing unoccupied by said light bulb, said terminals each having a plug-in socket surface formed therein which reside in said lower portion of said housing, and each said terminal operatively connected to a wire leading outside said housing; and
  - a semiconductor chip having a first conductive lead connected to one side thereof and having a terminal end configured to plug into one of said plug-in socket surfaces and a second conductive lead connected to another side of said chip and having a terminal end configured to plug into another of said plug-in socket surfaces.
10. (previously presented) The light socket of claim 9, wherein said leads are bonded to said sides of said chip.
11. (canceled).
12. (canceled).

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13. (currently amended) A light socket for use with a light string having at least two said light sockets connected in series, wherein each said socket receives a light bulb, wherein said socket includes:

a housing having a pair of conductive terminals to operatively connect and receive part of the light bulb in an upper portion of the housing and leaving a lower portion of said housing unoccupied by the light bulb, and each said terminal operatively connected to a wire leading outside said housing; and

a first semiconductor chip having a first conductive member connected at one end to one side thereof and having another end, and wherein said chip and member are configured to be operatively interposed between said terminals in said lower portion, and The light socket of claim 11, wherein said first conductive member is a spring.

14. (previously presented) The light socket of claim 13, wherein said first conductive member is bonded to said side of said chip.

15. (currently amended) The light socket of claim 13 11, which further includes a second semiconductor chip wherein said first conductive member is connected at said another end to another side of said chip and wherein said chips contact said terminals when operatively interposed between said terminals in said lower portion.

16. (canceled).

17. (previously presented) The light socket of claim 15, wherein said first conductive member is bonded to each said chip.

18. (previously presented) The light socket of claim 15, wherein each said chip is bonded to said terminal.

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19. (previously presented) A shunt device for use in a light socket for use with a light string having at least two said light sockets connected in series, wherein each said socket receives a light bulb, wherein said socket includes a housing having a pair of conductive terminals to operatively connect and receive part of the light bulb in an upper portion of the housing and leaving a lower portion of said housing unoccupied by the light bulb, wherein each terminal includes a bent portion extending into the lower portion of the housing which bias toward one another, and each terminal is operatively connected to a wire leading outside the housing, which includes:

a first semiconductor chip; and  
a bent conductive member having said chip connecting to one end and which is configured for the semiconductor chip to be inserted between the bent portion of each terminal and with another end of the bent member serving to retain the member and chip between the conductive terminals in the lower portion of the housing.

20. (previously presented) A light socket for use with a light string having at least two said light sockets connected in series, wherein each said socket receives a light bulb, wherein said socket includes:

a first semiconductor chip; and  
a housing having a pair of conductive terminals to operatively connect and receive part of the light bulb in an upper portion of the housing and leaving a lower portion of said housing unoccupied by the light bulb, and each said terminal operatively connected to a wire leading outside said housing and having a terminating end within the lower portion which includes retention fingers which are opposing each other in a spaced relationship in a manner to form a

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retaining seat for said chip disposed between the fingers.

21. (previously presented) The light socket of claim 20, wherein said chip is bonded between said fingers of said terminals.